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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	08/811,742	
	Filing Date	March 6, 1997	
	First Named Inventor	Hongyong ZHANG et al.	
	Group Art Unit	2823	
	Examiner Name	K. NGUYEN	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	740756-1641

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
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Firm or Individual name	<u>Luan C. Do, Reg. No. 38,434</u> Nixon Peabody LLP 8180 Greensboro Drive Suite 800 McLean, VA 22102
Signature	
Date	February 19, 2003

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Docket No. 740756-1641

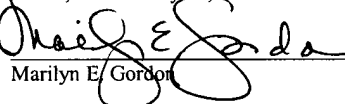
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: )  
Hongyong ZHANG et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2823  
Serial No. 08/811,742 ) Examiner: K. NGUYEN  
Filed: March 6, 1997 )  
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND ) Date: February 19, 2003  
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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 18, 2002, please consider the following remarks:

REMARKS

The Office Action of November 18, 2002 was received and reviewed. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the consideration given to the above-identified application.

Claims 5-12, 16, 19, 26-48, and 67-75 are pending for consideration, of which claims 27, 29, 31, 33, 36, 39, 42, 45, and 47 are independent.

Referring now to the detailed Office Action, claims 5-12, 16, 19, 26-48, and 67-75 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Oka (JP '915 – hereafter Oka) in combination with Liu et al. (U.S. '826 – hereafter Liu), Kuznetsov (Inst. Phys. Conf. – hereafter

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Kuznetsov), and Kumomi. Further, claims 9-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Oka in combination with Liu, Kuznetsov, Kumomi, and further in view of Yonehara (U.S. '093 – hereafter Yonehara) and/or Shibata (U.S. '244 – hereafter Shibata). Still further, claim 26 appears to be rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Oka in combination with Liu and Kuznetsov. It is unclear in Section 3, page 5 of the Office Action which secondary references are being applied, as Kuznetsov is being applied twice and Cono appears to be an unknown reference. These rejections are respectfully traversed at least for the reasons provided below.

The examiner is contending that Oka, which is the primary reference in all of the pending §103(a) rejections, teaches that grain growth proceeds from seed regions parallel to the substrate and TFT carrier flow (Figs. 5-8), and the TFT is inherently arranged such that the crystals extend along a direction which connects source and drain regions of the TFT. However, as previously submitted in remarks of the Preliminary Amendment of August 19, 2002, and the After Final Amendment filed June 19, 2002, it appears that Figs. 5-8 of Oka merely shows island regions (501, 602, 702 and 802). It is not clear where source and drain regions should be formed in each island region of Oka. That is, Figs. 5-8 of Oka does not teach, disclose, or suggest the direction which connects source and drain regions of the TFT.

Moreover, Oka merely discloses the arrangement of the channel region within the region (505), at which the probability of the presence of the crystal growth boundary is practically zero; and, Oka fails to show any arrangement of the source drain regions in an island region.

All the pending independent claims recite that a first thin film transistor is so arranged that crystals extend along with a direction connecting source and drain regions of the first thin film transistor. Should the Examiner still maintains the rejections over Oka as the primary reference, Applicants would respectfully request the Examiner to point out specifically where in Oka the specific feature is disclosed.

As Oka is deficient, as set forth above, its combination with the cited secondary references would be improper. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all pending §103(a) rejections.

In view of the above, it is submitted that claims -12, 16, 19, 26-48, and 67-75 are now in

condition for allowance. An early and favorable Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. In the event that the Examiner is of the opinion that a brief telephone or personal interview will facilitate allowance of one or more of the above claims, the Examiner is courteously requested to contact Applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,



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